Statement

Mandays lost (in millions) due to strikes, lock-outs and lay-offs

Year	Strikes	Lock-outs	Lay-offs
2002	9.66	16.92	2.78
2003	3.21	27.05	1.92
2004	4.83	19.04	1.79
2005(P)	7.29	15.98	0.88

Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla.
P: Provisional

Assistance to vocational training centres in Andhra Pradesh

984. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of vocational training centres being run in Andhra Pradesh with the central assistance;

(b) whether Central Government have not provided any grant to the state for running these centres during the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any proposal for central assistance received from the State is pending with the Central Government;

(e) if so, by when the said proposal is likely to be sanctioned; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) The Industrial Training Institutes/Centres are set up and run by the State Government and Private bodies out of their own funds and no central assistance is provided to run these institutes.

(d) to (f) A scheme to upgrade 100 Government ITIs to Centres of Excellence including 5 in Andhra Pradesh has been taken up during the

X Plan. Under the scheme there is a provision of central assistance of Rs. 1.2 crores per ITI to upgrade the facilities. As against the above provision, an amount of Rs. 171.75 lakhs has been sanctioned against which first installment amounting to Rs. 26.06 lakhs has already been realsed during current FY.

Rate of return by employees provident fund organisation

985. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation invested more than Rs. 1,50,000 crores out of its corpus, as at the end of October, 2005 in portfolio comprising of Central and State Government securities, financial institutions and public account;

(b) whether any of these investments has earned a return of 8.5 per cent in contrast to EPFO's liability to pay a return of 8.5 per cent to its subscribers as mandated by Government; and

(c) whether the EPFO has no option to draw from its reserves to pay the subscribers the assured return of 8.5 per cent for the year 2005-06 and whether EPFO will be able to sutain this rate of return for the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 31.03.2005, the average yield for the year 2005-06, in respect of the following categories of investment was estimated to be:

Category	Yield (%)
Central Govt. Securities	9.87
State Govt./Govt. Guaranteed Securities	11.09
State Development Loans	8.53
Public Sector Undertaking	7.62
Special Deposit Scheme	8.00